

REMARKS

A. Introduction

Claims 6-11, 13-18 and 20-27 were pending and under consideration. Claims 1-5, 12, and 19 were previously cancelled.

In the Office Action of March 11, 2009 ("the Office Action"), claims 6-11, 13-18 and 20-27 were rejected as obvious.

Without conceding to the merits of the rejections, the claims have been amended to clarify an aspect of the present general inventive concept. No new matter has been added.

Reconsideration and allowance of all the pending claims are requested.

B. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 6, 7, 11, 13, 14, 18, 20, 21, 25 and 26 were rejected as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,486,460 to Murakami et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,375,752 to Raynor, et al. The rejections are traversed for at least the following reason.

Independent claims 7, 13, 20, and 25 presently recite, *inter alia*, "a well region...electrically isolated from other well regions along the pixel row." In the manner, the present general inventive concept advantageously enables pixels along each pixel row to have a more dynamic range with respect to one another.

Murakami is limited to a P semiconductor region 222 that extends along an entire length of the substrate. See Murakami, Fig. 19A. Raynor is silent regarding any well regions. Consequently, neither Murakami nor Raynor disclose or suggest all of the elements recited by independent claims 7, 13, 20, and 25.

Accordingly, independent claims 7, 13, 20, and 25 are patentable over the art of record. The remaining claims depend from one of independent claims 7, 13, 20, and 25, and therefore include all of the limitations of their respective independent claim. Accordingly, these dependent claims are also patentable over the art of record.

C. Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, there being no other objections or rejections, this application is in condition for allowance, and a notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

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If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3140.

Respectfully submitted,
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